

Remarks

Claims 1-5, 8, 9, 17, 19-23, 30-65 and 79-81 are pending in the application, of which claims 55-65 and 79-81 are withdrawn. Claims 17, 20-22, 30-32, 34-39 and 41-53 are rejected. Claims 1-5, 8, 9, 23 and 33 are allowed.

With this response, Applicant herewith amends claims 19, 22, 23, 30, 31, 35, 37, 38, 43, 44, 49 and 50 and cancels claims 17, 20, 21, 33, 40, 46, 52, 55-65 and 79-81. For purposes of clarity, a clean copy of the claims is included in Appendix A.

Claims 1-5, 8 and 9 (allowed claims):

The Examiner has allowed claims 1-5, 8 and 9 are allowed. Applicant herewith accepts the allowance of the claims with no further amendments.

Claims 17, 20, 21, 46 and 52 (rejected claims, now cancelled):

The Examiner has rejected claims 17, 20, 21, 46 and 52. Without agreeing with the Examiner's assertions and in the interest of expedient prosecution, Applicant herewith cancels claims 17, 20, 21, 46 and 52. Applicant herewith submits that the cancellation of the above-mentioned claims renders the rejection moot and requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 33 and 40 (allowed claims, now cancelled):

Claim 33 is allowed. Applicant notes that neither the Office Action Summary nor the Office Action itself mention the status of claim 40. Applicant notes that claim 40 bears a strong resemblance to allowed claim 33. Applicant therefore suspects that the absence of claim 40 from the Office Action Summary was inadvertent and that the Examiner intended to indicate claim 40 as allowable. Claims 33 and 40 are cancelled in view of the limitations now encompassed in claims 30 and 37 or 38, respectively.

Claims 55-65 and 79-81 (withdrawn claims, now cancelled):

Applicant herewith cancels withdrawn claims 55-65 and 79-81.

Claims 19, 22, 23, 30, 31, 35, 37, 38, 43, 44, 49 and 50:

The Examiner has rejected claims 19 and 22 and claims dependent therefrom for lack of enablement under 35 U.S.C. § 112, paragraph 1. Specifically, the Examiner states that Applicant has not enabled the full scope of the dipolarophile to encompass non-electron deficient double bonds. Without agreeing with the Examiner's assertions and in the interest of expedient prosecution, Applicant herewith amends claims 19, 22, 30, 31, 35, 37, 38, 43, 44, 49 and 50 to limit the scope of the dienophile to electron-deficient double bonds as set forth in amended claim 23.

Specifically, claim 19 is amended to include limitations of R_a and R_b commensurate in scope with allowed claim 23. The numbering of the substituents on the aryl ring of R_b has been amended to avoid confusion. No new matter has been added.

Claim 22 as amended now depends from allowed claim 23.

Claim 23 is allowed and amended to depend from claims 3 or 4 instead of cancelled claims 20 or 21. Claim 23 has also been amended to incorporate the same amendments as claim 19 as a result of this change in dependency.

Claims 30, 31, 37, 38, 43, 44, 49 and 50 are herewith amended to depend from allowed claim 23.

Applicant also wishes to bring to the Examiner's attention the amendment of claim 35 to correct an obvious typographical error as the reducing agent $Me_4NBH(OAc)_3$ was inadvertently represented as $Me_4BH(OAc)_3$. The basis for this amendment can be found on page 10, line 7 of the application as filed. No new matter has been added.

Applicant herewith submits that the present amendments of the above-mentioned claims render the rejection moot and requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

Conclusion

Applicant would like to thank the Examiner for his time and consideration of this case. If a telephone conversation would help clarify any issues, or help expedite prosecution of this case, Applicant invites the Examiner to contact the undersigned at (617) 248-4793.

Additionally, please charge any fees that may be required or credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account 03-1721 under Order No. 0079571-0110.

Respectfully submitted,

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